

Message Text

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TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, H.A.)

SUBJECT: TED KOPPEL INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY - PART 2

FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

NO. 9

PART 2 WAS BROADCAST AS PART OF ABC EVENING NEWS JANUARY 21.

KOPPEL: DETENTE IS A PARTICULARLY CONFUSING RELATIONSHIP
BECAUSE IT ENCOMPASSES AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT AT THE
SAME TIME.

KISSINGER: IT IS UNFORTUNATE AFRENCH WORD WAS USED TO
DESCRIBE WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO
GREAT POWERS THAT ARE ATTEMPTING TO MODERATE THEIR CONFLICT
BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ELIMINATE IT.

HENRY JACKSON: IF I WERE PRESIDENT, THE MOMENT I FOUND OUT
WHAT THEY ARE UP TO, I WOULD GO TO THE RUSSIANS & SAY, LOOK
YOU SAY YOU WANT TO LESSEN TENSIONS, NOW YOU ARE INCREASING
IT. WE ARE NOT GOING TO PROVIDE THE HELP YOU ARE ASKING FOR
WE DON'T HAVE TO PROVIDE IT. IF YOU WANT TO PLAY IT THAT
WAY, YOU PLAY IT THAT WAY.

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KISSINGER: I AM NOT EQUATING DETENTE WITH HARMONIOUS RELATIONS. IF THE SOVIET UNION BEHAVES AGGRESSIVELY, WE WILL RESIST WITH DETERMINATION. AND IF THAT REQUIRES COLD WAR MODES OF ACTION, WE WILL USE COLD WAR MODES OF ACTION. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HISTORY NOT TO LET RHETORIC AND SHORT TERM PUBLICITY SWAY US, AND TO KEEP OPEN THE OPTION OF A MORE PEACEFUL RELATIONSHIP.

HENRY JACKSON: AMERICAN PEOPLE SAY, WHAT HAVE WE GOT OUT OF IT? ALL WE HAVE BEEN DOING IS GIVING CREDIT. WE HAVE BEEN DOING THE GIVING, THEY HAVE BEEN DOING THE TAKING AND WE GET NOTHING IN RETURN.

KISSINGER: IT IS VERY EASY TO MAKE DEMAGOGIC ARGUMENTS TO SHOW THE SOVIETS GAIN SOMETHING IN THIS RELATIONSHIP BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY IF THE SOVIET UNION DID NOT THINK THEY WERE GAINING, THEY WOULD NOT ENGAGE IN THIS RELATIONSHIP. THE PROBLEM IS NOT WHETHER THEY GAIN SOMETHING, BUT WHETHER WE ALSO GAIN SOMETHING.

KOPPEL: CERTAINLY THE NUMBER OF SOVIET AND U.S. TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS HAS EXPANDED DRAMATICALLY SINCE THE ADVENT OF DETENTE. THERE ARE 64 BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IN FORCE; SOME OF THEM DATE BACK TO THE LAST CENTURY. BUT 40 OF THEM, ROUGHLY TWO-THIRDS HAVE BEEN SIGNED DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS. SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD HOPED TO CREATE A WEB OF INTERLOCKING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, BUT HIS OVERALL STRATEGY DEPENDED ON THE CONTINUING ABILITY TO ALTERNATELY REWARD OR PUNISH SOVIET BEHAVIOR. CONGRESS HAS SHARPLY CURTAILED KISSINGER'S FLEXIBILITY IN THIS REGARD, AND WHATEVER THE MOTIVATION, DETENTE MAY NOT SURVIVE IT. THE FUTURE OF DETENTE IN OUR NEXT REPORT. TED KOPPEL IN WASHINGTON.

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